

**Remarks**

The specification has been amended to insert a period at the end of line 30 on page 4. This amendment involves the correction of an obvious typographical error. Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the claimed method involves the activation of a persulfate by a chelated metal catalyst composed of divalent or trivalent cationic species of a transition metal. Support for this amendment is found on page 4, lines 13-14 of the specification.

Claims 12, 14 and 16-18 have been amended so that their antecedent basis is consistent with claim 1 as currently amended.

Pending claim 13 has been deleted.

Consequently no new matter has been added as a consequence of this amendment.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephonic interview granted on May 13, 2008, and respectfully submit that the claims as amended are now patentably distinct over those publications cited in the Office Action mailed April 10, 2008. As discussed the double patenting rejection remains provisional and can be addressed by the filing of an appropriate terminal disclaimer at the appropriate time. Accordingly, it is respectfully urged that the present claims as amended are now patentable. Allowance thereof is therefore courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William E. Dickheiser, Esq.

Reg. No. 30,169

Phone: (215) 299-6966

May 19, 2008

Correspondence address:

Patent Administrator

FMC Corporation

1735 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103